

Appl. No. 10/786,585
Amdt. dated August 3, 2006
Reply to Office Action of 4/6/06

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PATENT
Docket: 030374

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-36 have been examined, claims 1-18 and 21-36 are rejected, and claims 19 and 20 are objected to. In the above amendments, claims 1, 19, 20, 23, 27 and 34 have been amended, and new claims 37-39 have been added. Therefore, after entry of the above amendments, claims 1-39 will be pending in this application. Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Objected to Claims 19 and 20

Claims 19 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 19 and 20 have each been amended to include all of the limitations of original base claim 1 and intervening claim 18. Applicant submits that claims 19 and 20 are now allowable.

Rejection of Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-16, 18, 21, 23, 24, 26-31 and 34-36 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-16, 18, 21, 23, 24, 26-31 and 34-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yamada *et al* (U.S. Application Serial No. 2003/0133337).

Yamada discloses a semiconductor device 1 directed to making unnecessary circuit operation inactive to reduce power consumption. Device 1 is divided into blocks. The blocks are divided into a non-controlled power supply group 2 and controlled power supply groups 3₁ through 3_n. (See FIG. 1.) Non-controlled power supply group 2 is always on and controls a power switch 8₁ for first controlled power supply group 3₁. First controlled power supply group 3₁ in turn controls a power switch for the next controlled power supply group. Power supply groups 2 and 3₁ through 3_n are connected in a daisy chain, with each power supply group controlling the power switch for the next power supply group. (See also FIGS. 2 and 7.)

Claim 1 of the present invention, as amended, recites:

"A integrated circuit for a wireless communication device, comprising:

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an always-on power domain including circuit blocks coupled to a first power supply and powered on at all times while the wireless device is powered on; and

at least one collapsible power domain, each collapsible power domain including circuit blocks coupled to a second power supply via a respective power connection and powered on or off via the power connection, wherein the always-on power domain determines power on and off states of all of the at least one collapsible power domain."

Applicant submits that Yamada does not disclose all elements of claim 1. Yamada does not disclose "wherein the always-on power domain determines power on and off states of all of the at least one collapsible power domain," as recited in claim 1. This feature is disclosed in paragraph [1041] of the present application. In contrast, FIG. 1 of Yamada shows non-controlled power supply group 2 controlling power switch 8₁ for first controlled power supply group 3₁, first controlled power supply group 3₁ in turn controlling the power switch for the next controlled power supply group, etc. FIG. 2 of Yamada similarly shows power supply group A controlling power switch 17 for power supply group B, which in turn controls power switch 18 for power supply group C. Yamada thus does not disclose this feature of claim 1.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by Yamada. Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-16, 18 and 21 are dependent on claim 1 and are not anticipated by Yamada for at least the reasons noted for base claim 1.

Independent claims 23, 27 and 34 have each been amended to recite the features noted above for claim 1. Claims 24 and 26 are dependent on claim 23, claims 28-31 are dependent on claim 27, and claims 35 and 36 are dependent on claim 34. These claims are not anticipated by Yamada for at least the reason noted for claim 1

Accordingly, the §102(b) rejection of claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-16, 18, 21, 23, 24, 26-31 and 34-36 should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 2, 8, 10, 17, 22, 25, 32 and 33 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada *et al* (US2003/0133337).

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada *et al* (US2003/0133337) in view of Hattori et al. (US2002/0094840).

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Claims 8, 10, 22, 25, 32 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada *et al* (US2003/0133337) in view of Grayson *et al.* (US 6,219,564).

Claims 2, 8, 10, 17 and 2 are dependent on claim 1. Claims 25 is dependent on claim 23. Claims 32 and 33 are dependent on claim 27. Yamada does not disclose all elements of base claims 1, 23 and 27, as noted above. Yamada is thus an insufficient basis for the §103(a) rejection of dependent claims 2, 8, 10, 17, 22, 25, 32 and 33. Other references do not address the deficiencies of the Yamada reference.

Accordingly, the §103(a) rejection of claims 2, 8, 10, 17, 22, 25, 32 and 33 should be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 37-39 recite additional features of the invention. Support for claim 37 is given in paragraph [1041]. Support for claims 38 and 39 is given in FIGS. 5A and 5B and the accompanying description.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


 Howard H. Seo, Reg. No. 43,106
 Phone No. 858-845-5235

QUALCOMM Incorporated
 Attn: Patent Department
 5775 Morehouse Drive
 San Diego, California 92121-1714
 Telephone: (858) 658-5787
 Facsimile: (858) 658-2502